Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 04950 092117Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W

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R 092031Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6260
AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE QUITO 4950

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, BFOL, EC, EFIS, PFOR, PLOS

SUBJ: FOREIGN GOVERNMENT TENDER: FISHING RESEARCH VESSEL

REF: A. QUITO 2813; B. QUITO 3661; C. QUITO 4043; D. USDOC 9791 D. QUITO A-76

- 1. EMBASSY IS FRANKLY DISAPPOINTED BY NEGATIVE RESPONSE OF US COMPANIES, AS REPORTED REFTEL D. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT AWARD OF CONTRACT TO US SUPPLIER WILL HAVE POSITIVE POLITICAL EFFECT IN ADDITION TO COMMERCIAL BENEFIT.
- 2. FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE IN REPLY TO POINTS RAISED IN REFTEL A. TENDER WAS REPORTED AS AN EARLY-WARINING ON APRIL 24 AND AGAIN AS CONFIRMED FGT ON MAY 27. COMPANIES HAVE THUS FAR HAD AT LEAST ONE MONTH TO PREPARE OFFER. WITH ANOTHER TWO MONTHS REMAINING (BID DEADLINE: AUGUST 25). THREE MONTHS IS CONSIDERABLY LONGER THAN GOE ALLOWS FOR MOST TENDERS. AND THIS WE READ AS INDICATION OF SERIOUS GOE INTENTIONS. EMBASSY THEREFORE CANNOT HONESTLY BELIEVE THAT US BIDDERS DO NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO PREPARE BIDS; B. COSTS OF SPECIFICATIONS AND BID DOCUMENTS MAY IN FACT BE HIGH, BUT THIS HAS OBVIOUSLY NOT DISCOURAGED FIRMS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES; AS OF JUNE 27, TWENTY RPT TWENTY SUPPLIERS HAD REQUESTED BID DOCUMENTS. OF THESE, F.B. WALKER &SONS OF PASCAGOULA, MISS., IS ONLY KNOWN U.S. FIRM; C. REGARDING REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS IN PERSON AND HAVING LOCAL REP. THIS IS IN CONFORMITY WITH NEW ECUADOREAN LAW OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FEBRUARY 1974 GOVERNING ALL BIDS AND TENDERS (SEE REF E).

A LOCAL AGENT OR REP CAN BE OBTAINED FOR ONE-TIME TRANSACTION, AND EMBASSY SERVICES CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE TO US FIRMS IN SELECTION OF SUITABLE ATTORNEYS AND LOCAL REPS.

- 3. SUGGEST THAT, IF NOT ALREADY DONE, COMMERCE CONTACT MR. ODIN THAANUM OF INTER-OCEANIC FACTORS, INC. LONG BEACH (TEL. (213) 435-7497) OR SAN DIEGO (TEL. (714) 232-4454) (TELEX LONG BEACH, CA. 656-363) AND INFORM OF THIS OPPORTUNITY. THAANUM, WELL-KNOWN TO EMBASSY AND GOE FISHERIES OFFICIALS, IS FREQUENT VISITOR TO ECUADOR AND HAS EXCELLENT CONNECTIONS WITH FISHING VESSEL SUPPLIERS.
- 4. EMBOFFS HAVE ASKED FOR APPOINTMENT WITH SUBSECRETARY FOR FISHERIES AND WILL TRANSMIT ANY NEW INFORMATION LEARNED. IN MEANTIME, REQUEST THAT COMMERCE CONTINUE EFFORT TO INTEREST U.S. COMPANIES.
- 5. DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT. BREWSTER

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